

# the Roadrunner

Nebraska ♦ Department ♦ of ♦ Roads

October/November 2006

## Elevated Lanes Lift West Dodge

- Story on page 3.

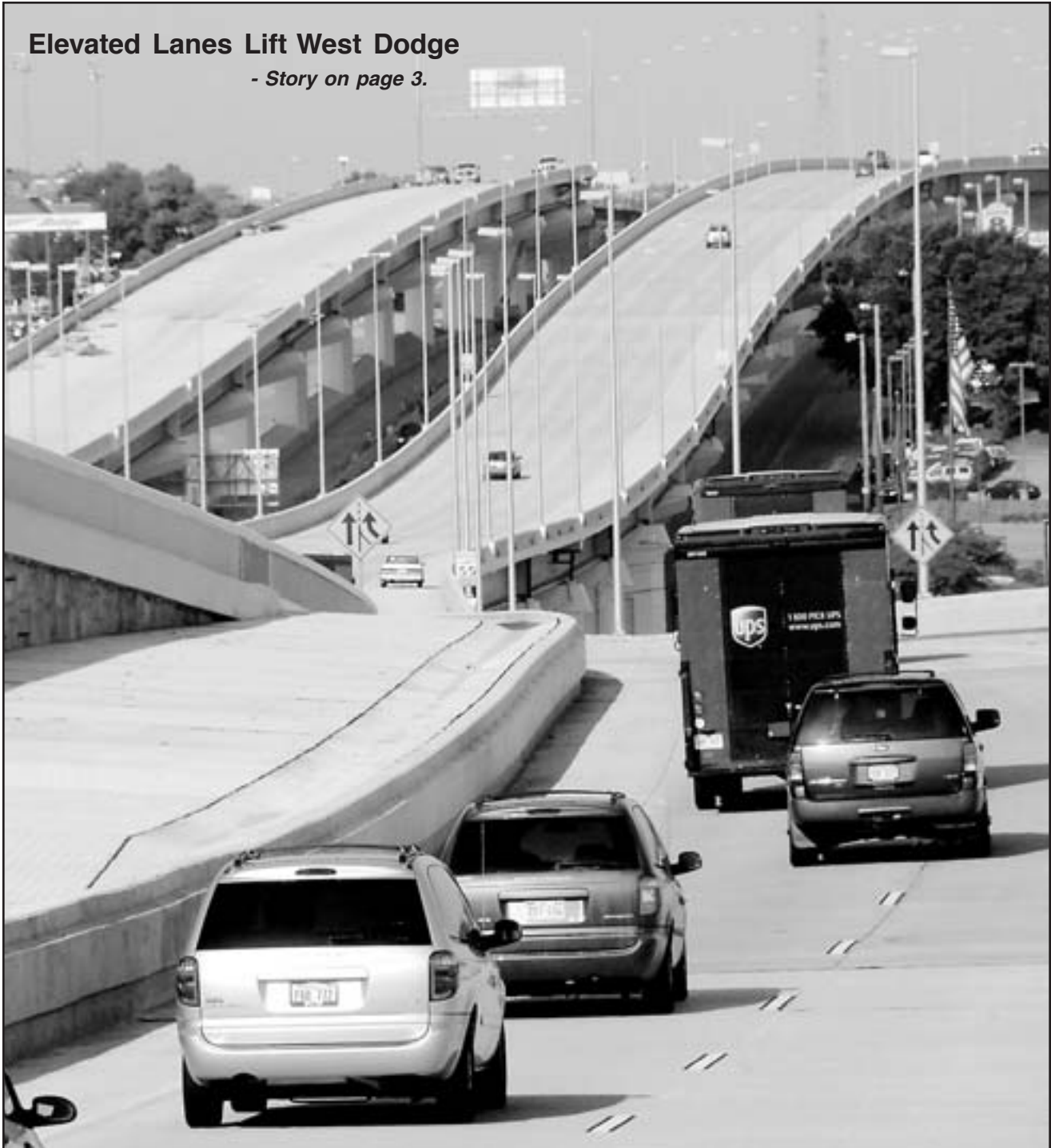


Photo by Jay Bailey

# the Roadrunner

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**Nebraska Department of Roads**

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**Governor Dave Heineman**

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Legal Counsel.....Jeff Schroeder

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Communication .....Mary Jo Hall  
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Traffic Engineering.....Randy Peters

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The information in this newsletter is contributed  
by employees, retirees and friends of NDOR.



## Project Management

# Strategy of Knowing and Doing



**Khalil Jaber**

**Khalil Jaber**

Project Scheduling and Program Management Engineer

Today's reality reminds me of summer droughts in the African Savanna, where water levels in ponds force hundreds of fish into eight inches of water where they fight for their lives. Today, less money is being spent, less revenue is being earned, yet we have goals we need to meet. To survive, we have cut costs, reduced projects, and put more emphasis on system preservation while searching for innovative ideas to meet these goals.

The best strategy is strong execution. In these tough times, it's not the thought that counts. It is the actions that produce results. Here, in NDOR, we are very fortunate to have a strong team that understands how to adjust and how to execute and reap practical results. However, this requires a well-organized project management strategy which gives us the ability to manage and deliver on projects.

All projects can be described in terms of scope, time and cost. A project does not happen on its own. It requires an intentional focus, working smart and obviously the discipline of project management.

Now think about it. If everything is a project, and we need to predict, with as much certainty as possible or required, the scope, time and cost to complete it, we must then execute to meet these predictions. Shouldn't we all be project managers? I believe the answer is YES.

We are taking the necessary steps to provide for such endeavors. We will have formal project management workshops to be offered twice a year and maybe more so we can be project managers and can speak a common language.

These workshops are designed to give participants a solid foundation in the concepts, tools and techniques of formal project management. They will engage them in the initiating, planning, executing, controlling and closing processes of project management.

There are many benefits to formal project management. Some of these benefits include:

- Delivery of projects closer to the predicted scope, time and cost.
- More trust in team relationships.
- Better able to make strategic decisions at the organizational level.
- Greater insight into project activities.
- Better management of stakeholder expectations.
- Increased productivity.

Formal project management is the key to "today's reality." It will take us from knowing *what* to knowing *how*. Let's all be a part of it. ♦



# Westbound West Dodge Elevated Expressway Opened to Traffic One Year Ahead of Schedule

After two years of construction, the westbound lanes of the West Dodge Expressway in Omaha opened July 27, more than one year ahead of schedule. Vehicles traveled on the elevated expressway for the first time after a ribbon-cutting ceremony, which featured a procession of more than 100 vintage and antique cars.

During the ceremony, Omaha Mayor Mike Fahey said the \$100 million expressway project is essential for the growing city. Governor Dave Heineman thanked the city, the Roads Department, the contractor, Hawkins Construction Co., and the project's lead designer, HDR, Inc., for their work on the project.

## Successful Project

NDOR Director John Craig noted that this has been a genuinely successful project because of partnerships and teamwork.

"In effect, this project has been all about people. The team effort on the part of our contractors working with the Department of Roads, to plan daily activities, weekly scheduling, working out the technical and logistical elements, have all been exceptional."

Director Craig commended the staff from HDR involved with this project and over 100 Hawkins employees who worked to build the elevated expressway regardless of weather conditions. He also recognized the NDOR employees who were involved with the project and gave special recognition to the following NDOR project leaders: District 2 Engineer Tim Weander; District 2 Construction Engineer Marv Lech; Co-Project Managers Rich Zelensky and Karl Burns; and Construction Technician Mike Fox. Special thanks were given to Design Engineers Terry Gibson, Mike Owen, Jeff Johnston and Roger Niemann. Bridge Engineer Lyman Freeman and the Bridge Division were also an integral part of the project, as were many others behind the scenes.

## Strong Progress

The original deadline for completing both the westbound and eastbound bridges was August 2007. The new deadline for opening the eastbound expressway bridge is December 1, although it could open sooner. Strong progress by Hawkins Construction Co. led to the earlier deadlines for completing the westbound portion of the elevated expressway.

During the two years of construction, the elevated expressway project has transformed the landscape around 114th and West Dodge Road. Eighty-three piers tower 40 feet high, providing support for the 65-ton girders, many as long as 150 feet. A total of 464 girders support the bridge decks.

The mile-long dual expressway bridges run along West Dodge from just west of Interstate 680 to 124th Street. The expressway bridges will carry three lanes of traffic in both

directions, with local traffic using the existing at-grade West Dodge Road. NDOR projects that about 70 percent, or 68,600, of the roughly 98,000 vehicles that had been traveling West Dodge each day near 114th Street will use the expressway bridges.

The expressway is among the biggest road projects in Omaha's history, rivaling construction of the North Freeway and the Kennedy Freeway and trailing only construction of the Interstate through the city. The West Dodge project is the biggest of about a dozen state projects carried out over

the past 15 years aimed at improving West Dodge and U.S. 275 between Omaha and Fremont. The improvements, which included more lanes and interchanges, have created a freeway between the two communities. ♦



NDOR employees stand in the new elevated westbound lanes prior to opening more than one year ahead of schedule.

## Expressway Designed with Safety Features

The West Dodge Expressway bridges have 3½-foot barriers on each side as a safety feature. According to Sam Fallaha, NDOR Assistant Bridge Engineer, these barriers were designed specifically for the expressway bridges by NDOR and the Midwest Roadside Safety Facility, a lab run by UNL. They are 13 inches taller than the older 29-inch design that is still in use on some Interstate bridges in Nebraska, and are tall enough to keep vehicles from flipping over the bridge.

Another safety feature involves the barriers' shape, like a bumper, with the middle section protruding out. That design creates a rail along the side of the barrier. The bumpers help absorb the impact and serve as a catch for a vehicle in a crash.



# NDOR Joins Efforts to Fight Northwestern Nebraska Wildfires

In late July, as wildfires threatened the northwestern corner of Nebraska, including the Dawes and Sioux Counties complex fires in and around Chadron and Harrison, many local, county, state and federal agencies joined efforts to contain these fires and protect property and lives. Resources from state agencies, including troops and helicopters from the Nebraska National Guard, supported the efforts of more than 1,200 volunteer and federal firefighters.

When asked to help, the Nebraska Department of Roads quickly responded by providing over 90 people from Districts 5, 7 and 8 who contributed 5,000 man hours and 50 pieces of equipment to cut approximately 1,000 miles of fire lines and haul over 500,000 gallons of water. NDOR employees also set up message boards, flagged traffic and closed roads. The combined efforts of these hard-working, dedicated Roads employees helped to contain the fires and prevent further loss of property. ♦



Flames swept over 27,954 acres in the Dawes County fires south and southwest of Chadron.



NDOR employees used heavy equipment to cut fire lines helping prevent the spread of wildfires.



Blackened earth and charred trees remain in the aftermath of fires near Harrison, in Sioux County. Over 40,000 acres were burned.

## Complex Fires

### Dawes County

**Date Started:** July 28, 2006

**Location:** South and southwest of Chadron

**Cause:** Lightning

#### Acres Burned:

Spotted Tail Fire..... 17,935 acres  
(south and east of Chadron)

Roberts Tract..... 9,934 acres  
(southwest of Chadron)

Deadhorse..... 85 acres  
(southwest of Chadron)

### Sioux County

**Date Started:** July 27, 2006

**Location:** Northeast and northwest of Harrison

**Cause:** Lightning

#### Acres Burned:

Thayer Fire..... 29,522 acres  
(northeast of Harrison)

Rudloff Fire ..... 8,379 acres  
(southeast of Harrison)

Oldaker Fire ..... 2,369 acres  
(northwest of Harrison)

# Affirmative Action Award Goes to NDOR

The Nebraska Department of Roads received the Governor's 2006 Affirmative Action Award, presented at the Governor's Mansion on July 26 by Governor Dave Heineman. The award recognized NDOR for creation of initiatives that contributed to the hiring and advancement of qualified female and minority engineers and engineering managers.

According to Mike Mitchell, a Human Resources Manager at NDOR, criteria considered by the State's Affirmative Action Committee included outstanding achievement in the following areas: placement, positive action, recruitment, integration retention, accessibility, job accommodation restructuring, and training.

Mike Mitchell said that NDOR is a leader in Equal Employment Opportunity through its efforts in several key areas. A successful Student Internship Program, partnering with the University of Nebraska's Peter Kiewit Institute, implementing an innovative Engineering Field Program, and pursuing an active community outreach and recruitment program

have contributed to NDOR's success hiring and advancing female and minority engineers and engineering managers at rates greater than that of the Nebraska labor market.

Mike Mitchell noted that census data shows that 7.8 percent of civil

engineers in Nebraska are women and 5.4 percent are minorities, while NDOR is well above those percentages. Additional information about the award may be obtained by contacting Mike Mitchell at (402)479-3661. ♦



*Photo by Jerry Crisp, Nebraska Health & Human Services System*

**Pictured, l to r, with Governor Dave Heineman after receiving the Governor's 2006 Affirmative Action Award on July 26 at the Governor's Mansion are: NDOR Director John Craig, Personnel Officer Gloria Eikerman (Recruitment), and Personnel Manager Lois Schmidt (Recruitment and Selection).**

## Guarding Against Identity Theft

Identity theft occurs when someone wrongfully acquires or uses another person's personal data, typically for their own financial gain. According to the Identity Theft Resource Center, a national nonprofit organization, surveys from 2003 to 2006 showed a decrease in the total number of victims but an increase in the total value of identity fraud to \$56.6 billion in 2006. The average fraud per person rose from \$5,249 in 2003 to \$6,383 in 2006.

Some techniques used for obtaining personal information include: dumpster diving - rummaging through trash; skimming - stealing credit/debit card numbers by using a special storage device

when processing your card; phishing - impersonating a trusted organization in an electronic communication; changing your address - diverting billing statements to another location by completing a "change of address" form; listening in on conversations you have in public; "old-fashioned" stealing - stealing wallets and purses, mail, including bank and credit card statements, pre-approved credit offers, and new checks or tax information; and stealing personnel records from employers, or bribing employees who have access.

Identity theft is a serious crime. It can cost you time and money, destroy your credit and ruin your

good name. How can you protect yourself from becoming a victim?

The following precautions are recommended by the U.S. Federal Trade Commission:

- Shred financial documents and paperwork with personal information before you discard them.
- Protect your Social Security number. Don't carry your Social Security card in your wallet or write your Social Security number on a check. Give it out only if absolutely necessary or ask to use another identifier.
- Don't give out personal information on the phone, through the mail, or over the Internet

See **Identity Theft** on next page

# Nebraska Byways Receive New Signs

NDOR Director John Craig unveiled new highway signs marking the statewide Nebraska Byway system during dedication ceremonies for the Lincoln Highway Scenic & Historic Byway on August 24. The new signs were unveiled in Elkhorn, near the refurbished brick paved road along the Lincoln Highway Byway. The 455 signs feature the Nebraska Byway logo along with the name of the specific byway across the lower portion of the sign and will be placed throughout the nine byways in the state.

These signs provide additional markings, reminding travelers that they are enjoying one of Nebraska's relaxing and beautiful routes. "It is appropriate that this significant byway should be the first location for these signs as the Lincoln Highway Scenic & Historic Byway was a part of the first transcontinental highway in the nation," said John Craig. "This byway has been guiding travelers across the state since 1912, following the path taken by many of the pioneers."

Highway 30 is commonly referred to, by residents across Nebraska, as the old Lincoln Highway. Started in 1913, an improved, hard-surfaced road was envisioned that would stretch almost 3,400 miles from coast to coast, over the shortest practical route. The

Lincoln Highway takes its name from Abraham Lincoln, credited for making the project a reality. This quiet two-lane road through Nebraska offers travelers a glimpse of Central Nebraska's history and heritage, features numerous original highway markers, and houses the Lincoln Highway museum in Shelton.

"The extension of the Lincoln Highway from border to border on Highway 30 will enhance our State Byways Program and encourage more communities to become involved. This program has proven beneficial for economic development and for drawing new tourists onto historically significant roadways," noted Craig.

Highway 30 parallels Interstate 80 from the Wyoming line east through the Grand Island area. It meanders north through Columbus and Fremont, passes through the Elkhorn area near Omaha, before ending in Blair, Nebraska, near the Iowa border. This expanded byway route will entice not only Lincoln Highway enthusiasts from across the country, but will lure additional byway travelers in general, thanks to its close proximity to the Interstate.

Highway 30, statewide, has several portals to enter and exit the Interstate, thus increasing the chances to add to the economic stability, create tourism



partnerships, and change Nebraska's reputation from a drive-through state to a destination state, as consumers seek to slow down and experience travel.

The Lincoln Highway byway is one of nine recognized byways in Nebraska, and it replaces the Platte River Trails Scenic Byway, which ran through central Nebraska from Sutherland and then east for 95 miles to Overton. The Nebraska Byways Program, which began in 1999, is designed to showcase outstanding archaeological, cultural, historic, natural, recreational and scenic qualities along Nebraska's two-lane highways. It operates under the administration of the Nebraska Department of Roads, receiving funding through the Federal Highway Administration. Nebraska's Division of Travel and Tourism manages the marketing aspects of the byways program. For Lincoln Byways photos and a brief history, please visit NDOR's web site at [www.dor.state.ne.us/history/lincolnhwy.htm](http://www.dor.state.ne.us/history/lincolnhwy.htm). ♦

## Identity Theft *(continued from page 5)*

unless you know who you are dealing with.

- Never click on links sent in unsolicited e-mails; instead, type in a web address you know. Use firewalls, anti-spyware, and anti-virus software to protect your home computer.
- Don't use obvious passwords like your birth date or your mother's maiden name.
- Keep your personal information in

a secure place at home.

- Be alert for discrepancies in your financial bills and statements and query them immediately.
- Report fraud as soon as you detect it.

If you find you are a victim of identity theft, **immediate** action should be taken.

- Place a "Fraud Alert" on your credit reports and review the reports carefully.

- Close any accounts that have been tampered with or established fraudulently.
- Contact your local police and file a report with law enforcement officials to help you with creditors who may want proof of the crime.
- Report the theft to the Federal Trade Commission. Your report helps law enforcement officials across the country in their investigations. ♦



# It's a Repeat ...

## Higel and Fangmeier Do It Again

**By Denise Wallman**  
Operations Division

Jim Higel and John Fangmeier, District 4 - Hebron, took top honors again at the thirteenth annual NDOR Snow Roadeo held August 23 in Kearney. Runners-up in the truck division were John Saxton and Dwayne "Buddy" Darnell, District 5 - Gordon. The 2006 champion in the loader competition was Tim Buechler, District 5 - Sidney. Dave Dankert, District 4 - Grand Island was runner-up in the loader competition. This year's "Top Overall District" award in the truck division went to District 4. District 5 was given the top district award in the loader division.

Forty-eight contestants competed in the snowplow competition and 24 competitors vied for the loader championship. Both the snowplow course and the loader course are designed to test the operator's skill in maneuvering through various obstacles. Each district conducts its own Roadeo, and district winners advance to the state competition. Winners of the state Roadeo then compete at the national Snow Roadeo which is a part of the APWA Western Snow & Ice Conference held in late September. NDOR's Operations Division hosts the annual Snow Roadeo competition. ♦



**Truck Champions – (l to r) John Craig, Director; Wes Wahlgren, District Engineer; Jim Higel, D4-Hebron; John Fangmeier, D4-Hebron; Allen Horak, District Operations & Maintenance Manager.**



**Loader Champion – (l to r) Chris Ford, District Operations & Maintenance Manager; Tim Buechler, D5-Sidney; Dennis Connot, Maintenance Superintendent, Sidney; John Craig, Director.**



**Loader Runner-up – Dave Dankert, D4-Grand Island.**



**Truck Runners-up – (l to r) Chris Ford, District Operations & Maintenance Manager; Buddy Darnell, D5-Gordon; John Saxton, D5-Gordon; John Craig, Director.**

## Interstate System Turns 50

# Cross-Country Convoy Visits North Platte and Omaha

**On June 21-22, the Nebraska Department of Roads hosted a visit from travelers on a modern version of a 1919 army convoy that Dwight D. Eisenhower participated in when he was a young soldier.**

Back then, it was a muddy tortuous journey from Washington, D.C. to San Francisco that took 62 days. The modern convoy used semi trailer trucks and retraced that first cross-country road trip in reverse in 13 days. They arrived in Washington, D.C. on June 29, the 50th anniversary of the signing of the Federal-Aid Highway Act by former President Eisenhower.

The "Dwight David Eisenhower System of Interstate and Defense Highways" is often called the greatest public works project in history. The Act created the Highway Trust Fund as a dedicated source of funding for the interstate highway system, on a pay-as-you-go basis through the

federal gas tax and other motor-vehicle user fees.

The convoy was organized by The American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) to commemorate this milestone. They traveled the Interstate 80 corridor, stopping in cities along the way to make speeches and raise public awareness about the system.

Major sponsors of the convoy included the American Trucking Associations and the Bridgestone Americas Family of Companies, including Bridgestone Firestone North American Tire. Convoy vehicles included Firestone-decorated trailers carrying the slogan "Good stuff. Trucks Bring

It!" Others carried logos "celebrating 50 years of the Interstate" as well as a picture of Dwight D. Eisenhower and the Eisenhower Interstate System highway sign.

NDOR hosted the convoy June 21 at the eastbound weigh station on I-80 in North Platte. Celebration activities

included a grilled picnic lunch prepared and served by Paulsen, Inc. Local transportation officials joined in the celebration and provided remarks.

### Omaha Celebration

During their stop in Omaha on June 22, ceremonies were held at the Werner Museum at Interstate 80 and Highway 50. Local and national sponsor Werner Enterprises, also celebrating their 50th anniversary this year, provided a continental breakfast for the convoy guests and VIPs. A news conference with Governor Dave Heineman, Omaha Mayor Mike Fahey and AASHTO Executive Director John Horsley kicked off the day's events. NDOR Director John Craig presented a Nebraska commemorative license plate to Horsley.

AAA, a leader in the nation's transportation community, presented Nebraska with a granite monument noting the 50th anniversary of the interstate and honoring all "who dedicated their lives to designing, building, maintaining and patrolling our interstate system so that all motorists may enjoy safe and efficient mobility." The monument now sits prominently in the I-80 "Melia Hill" rest area, west of Omaha.

Other events in Omaha included the Innovative Mobility Showcase, which was on display at the Qwest Convention Center Parking Lot, along with the 511 Development Coalition display and "Commissioner of Tailgating" Joe Cahn. Mementos, books and sponsor information were provided to media and attendees of all the events.

The dynamic Showcase, developed by researchers at the University of California, Berkeley, exclusively for the 12th World Congress on Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS), offered live

*(continued on next page)*

*"The old (1919) convoy had started me thinking about good, two-lane highways, but Germany had made me see the wisdom of broader ribbons across the land."*

**- President Dwight D. Eisenhower  
on the Interstate**



This Firestone truck was one of many trucks and busses in the cross-country convoy. The convoy parked outside Werner Enterprises during the morning celebrations held at the Omaha headquarters of the trucking giant.





Nebraska Governor Dave Heineman told the audience of media and transportation officials and supporters that the interstate and Werner Trucking developed together over 50 years. Seated (l to r) Richard Landis of PrePass and Dick Reiser, District 2 Highway Commissioner.

## Commemorative Publication

The publication, "50 Years of Interstate - Nebraska and the Nation," was produced by NDOR to recognize our state's role in the formative years and to draw attention to the continued progress of our nation's interstate system. Additional information about the book and about the interstate in Nebraska is available on NDOR's web page at [www.nebraskatransportation.org](http://www.nebraskatransportation.org).

vehicle demonstrations, including "ride and drives" in automobiles, trucks and buses fitted with ITS solutions. The Showcase offered the opportunity to experience the latest implementations of ITS technologies and provided a glimpse of transit's future.

### Dedicated Engineers

As Nebraska joined others throughout the nation in celebrating the 50th anniversary of the interstate highway system, the significance of Interstate 80 to the growth and development of Nebraska was recognized, and efforts of the many dedicated highway engineers, their industry partners and other hard-working Nebraska citizens who made it all possible were acknowledged.

In looking to the future of our

transportation system, Governor Heineman noted, "As we start thinking about the next 50 years, we will need to look at new ways to continue to build and maintain our roads and to keep the economy moving forward. It will be an exciting time filled with many challenges and opportunities ... I am proud of the part that our great State of Nebraska has played in the development of the interstate highway system and look forward to continued growth and prosperity in the future." ♦

### Nebraska First State to Complete Mainline I-80

Construction on the Nebraska section of the interstate system began in 1957 south of Gretna. In 1974, Nebraska became the first state to complete its 455-mile portion of the I-80 Interstate at a cost of \$435 million, an average of \$950,000 per mile. This was accomplished by building the most difficult parts first (in the Omaha area).

On October 19, 1974, a crowd gathered at the spot six miles west of Sidney to mark the opening of the final mainline segment of I-80 in Nebraska. A "Golden Link," an embedded brass-top section of channel-iron, was placed across all four lanes of traffic at rest areas west of Sidney.



AAA Nebraska presented a Nebraska-shaped granite marker that was placed in the I-80 "Melia Hill" rest area, westbound, just outside of Omaha.

# NDOR Highway Improvement Projects Currently Under Contract

## As of 8/12/06

**Location**  
**Work Description**  
**Prime Contractor**  
**Project Manager**  
**Contract Bid Amount**

### Key:

Aggregate - Agg  
 Bituminous - Bit  
 Bridge - Br  
 Building - Bldg  
 Concrete Pavement - ConPav  
 Culverts - Culv  
 Electrical - Elec  
 Grading - Gr  
 Guardrail - Gdrl  
 Mechanically Stabilized Earth - MSE  
 Seeding - Seed

### District 1

Cook Southwest  
 Gr, Culv  
 TCW Construction, Inc.  
 Lane, Chris (402)483-5466  
 \$200,268.63

Adams Northwest  
 Gr, Br, Gdrl  
 L. J. Webb Contractor, Inc.  
 Lane, Chris (402)483-5466  
 \$464,149.48

Dorchester Southeast  
 Gr, Culv, Br, Gdrl  
 L. J. Webb Contractor, Inc.  
 Vanroekel, Kirk (402)483-5466  
 \$404,470.87

Waverly North  
 Gr, Culv, Seed, Br Gdrl  
 Elk Horn Construction Co.  
 Dearmont, Virgil (402)441-7681  
 \$811,844.63

Julian East  
 Br  
 L. J. Webb Contractor, Inc.  
 Lautenschlager, Chris (402)421-1717  
 \$645,630.44

Table Rock North  
 Gr, Br, Gdrl  
 The Diamond Engineering Co.  
 Lautenschlager, Chris (402)421-1717  
 \$838,535.80

Lincoln Surveyors Building  
 Lincoln Surveyors Building  
 Rogge General Contractors, Inc.  
 Wood, Glenda (402)479-4498  
 \$658,029.00

Diller North  
 Bit  
 Dobson Bros. Const. Co.  
 & Affiliates  
 Endorf, Dennis (402)729-3489  
 \$1,598,321.22

Dorchester South  
 Gr, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Bit  
 Constructors, Inc.  
 Vandegrift, Allen (402)729-3489  
 \$2,999,076.23

In Syracuse  
 Bit  
 Pavers Companies  
 Hitzeman, Don (402)335-4131  
 \$299,497.01

Lorton East  
 Seed, Br, Gdrl, Bit  
 Constructors, Inc.  
 Hitzeman, Don (402)335-4131  
 \$1,635,544.66

Ashland South & East  
 Gr, Culv, Seed, Gdrl, Elec, Bit  
 Dobson Brothers Const. Co.  
 & Affiliates  
 Sidiqi, Abdul (402)471-0850  
 \$4,732,948.07

Bridge Over I-80 @ Arbor Rd.  
 Gr, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Fence  
 A. M. Cohron & Son, Inc.  
 Niazi, Babrak (402)471-0850  
 \$2,755,958.99

US-6/Amberly St., Waverly  
 Gr, ConPav, Culv, Elec  
 Pavers Companies  
 Niazi, Babrak (402)471-0850  
 \$78,989.74

84th St. - Waverly (WB)  
 Bit  
 Pavers Companies  
 Niazi, Babrak (402)471-0850  
 \$595,337.48

Eagle East  
 Specialty  
 Monarch Oil, Inc.  
 Niazi, Babrak (402)471-0850  
 \$187,103.92

Platte River Bridges  
 Gr, MSE Wall, ConPav, Culv,  
 Seed, Br, Gdrl, Fence, Sign, Elec  
 Hawkins Construction Co.  
 Knutson, Dewaine (402)471-0850  
 \$45,189,781.90

Julian North & South  
 Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed, Elec  
 Dobson Brothers Const Co.  
 & Affiliates  
 Cary, Bill (402)335-4131  
 \$12,645,541.65

Beatrice East  
 Gdrl, Seed, Bit  
 Constructors, Inc.  
 Cary, Bill (402)335-4131  
 \$2,623,249.93

Tecumseh South  
 Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed  
 Dobson Bros. Const. Co.  
 & Affiliates  
 Habegger, Michael (402)335-4131  
 \$3,596,981.22

Table Rock West  
 Gr, Culv, Seed, Elec, Bit  
 Dobson Bros. Const. Co.  
 & Affiliates  
 Habegger, Michael (402)335-4131  
 \$2,641,879.16

Sterling East  
 Gr, Bit  
 Pavers Companies  
 Habegger, Michael (402)335-4131  
 \$119,646.52

E. Jct. US-136/N-67 Brownville  
 Elec  
 Dominion Construction Co.  
 Habegger, Michael (402)335-4131  
 \$11,288.60

Van Dorn St. - 59th St., Lincoln  
 Gr, Culv, Gdrl, Elec, Bit  
 Pavers Companies  
 Sanburn, Bob (402)471-0850  
 \$2,813,942.25

US-77 So. Interchg. to I-180, Lincoln  
 Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed, Br,  
 Gdrl, Fence, Elec, Sign  
 Dobson Bros. Const. Co.  
 & Affiliates  
 England, Jim (402)471-0850  
 \$28,886,121.30

Church Rd. Bridge  
 Gr, MSE Wall, Culv, Br, Gdrl, Bit  
 MCC, LLC  
 Preble, Rodger (402)471-0850  
 \$2,488,052.17

Ashland South  
 Bridge  
 Herbst Construction, Inc.  
 Preble, Rodger (402)471-0850  
 \$109,557.50

K & L Interchange  
 Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed, Br,  
 Gdrl, Fence, Elec, Sign  
 Dobson Bros. Const. Co.  
 & Affiliates  
 Traudt, Bob (402)471-0850  
 \$10,119,343.74

Warlick Interchange Grading  
 Gr  
 Land Construction, Inc.  
 Traudt, Bob (402)471-0850  
 \$854,205.40

US-77, K & L Excess Borrow  
 Gr  
 Legrande Excavating, Inc.  
 Traudt, Bob (402)471-0850  
 \$275,811.82

Lincoln West  
 Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed,  
 Br, Gdrl, Elec  
 Dobson Bros. Const. Co.  
 & Affiliates  
 Hobelman, Ryan (402)471-0850  
 \$12,430,182.09

Little Salt Creek Bridge (WB)  
 Br  
 JMN Construction, LLC  
 Kuehn, Joseph (402)471-0850  
 \$642,572.09

W. Jct. N-79 West  
 Bit  
 Constructors, Inc.  
 Kuehn, Joseph (402)471-0850  
 \$1,016,231.15

Davey Spur  
 Bit  
 Dobson Bros. Const. Co.  
 & Affiliates  
 Kuehn, Joseph (402)471-0850  
 \$173,364.54

### District 2

Platte River East  
 Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed,  
 Br, Gdrl, Elec  
 Hawkins Construction Co.  
 Brown, Darin G. (402)727-3292  
 \$8,790,130.15

N-36/Reichmuth Rd.  
 Elec  
 Commonwealth Electric Co.  
 of the Midwest  
 Brown, Darin G. (402)727-3292  
 \$34,519.07

Fremont East Bypass  
 Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed, Br,  
 Gdrl, Fence, Elec, Sign  
 Werner Construction, Inc.  
 Veverka, Frank (402)727-3292  
 \$26,555,563.32

I-480 WB/US-75 NB Bridge  
 over Burt, Omaha  
 Gr, MSE Wall, ConPav, Culv,  
 Br, Gdrl, Fence, Elec, Sign  
 Hawkins Construction Co.  
 Baehr, Dennis (402)595-2534  
 \$17,399,999.32

Gretna - Q Street  
 Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed, Br,  
 Gdrl, Elec  
 Chas. Vrana & Son Const. Co.  
 Farivari, Mo (402)595-2534  
 \$12,569,244.55

Blondo St. Noise Wall, Omaha  
 Specialty  
 Hawkins Construction Co.  
 Wilson, Bill (402)595-2534  
 \$702,718.23

In Elkhorn  
 Gr, ConPav, Culv, Elec  
 Chas. Vrana & Son Const. Co.  
 Trujillo, Ray (402)727-3292  
 \$5,327,891.36

174th St. - 198th St, Omaha  
 Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed,  
 Br, Gdrl, Fence, Elec, Sign  
 Chas. Vrana & Son Const. Co.  
 Khalaf, Zahi (402)595-2534  
 \$15,703,247.66

I-80/Harrison St.,  
 Rdwy. Sensor Test Bed  
 Elec  
 Commonwealth Electric Co.  
 of the Midwest  
 Khalaf, Zahi (402)595-2534  
 \$152,257.50

Waterloo Southeast  
 Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed, Br,  
 Gdrl, Fence, Elec, Sign  
 Hawkins Construction Co.  
 Weander, Marty (402)595-2534  
 \$20,452,885.99

72nd St., N-36 to I-680, Omaha  
 Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed, Gdrl,  
 Fence, Elec  
 Chas. Vrana & Son Const. Co.  
 Weander, Marty (402)595-2534  
 \$5,273,885.67

N-370 to Ruff Rd.  
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed,  
Gdrl, Fence, Elec, Sign  
Hawkins Construction Co.  
Fisher, Rick (402)595-2534  
\$39,143,149.79

Pflug Rd. Bridge  
Gr, MSE Wall, Culv, Br, Gdrl, Fence  
Hawkins Construction Co.  
Fisher, Rick (402)595-2534  
\$3,172,179.51

Addtl., 4th Lane I-680 SB  
Pacific - West Center  
Gr, MSE, ConPav, Culv, Elec, Sign  
Chas. Vrana & Son Const. Co.  
Fisher, Rick (402)595-2534  
\$948,711.95

Hooper East & West  
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed, Br,  
Gdrl, Elec, Sign  
Werner Construction, Inc.  
Jacobs, Micky (402)727-3292  
\$22,401,622.91

I-80/N370 West  
Bit  
U.S. Asphalt Co.  
Kuehner, Chris (402)595-2534  
\$534,294.92

Omaha Vehicle Storage Facility  
Omaha Vehicle Storage Facility  
Judds Bros. Construction Co.  
Kuehner, Chris (402)595-2534  
\$619,450.00

Districts Operations Center  
Districts Operations Center  
Prairie Construction Co.  
Kuehner, Chris (402)595-2534  
\$1,523,000.00

D-2 Operations Center,  
ITS Equipment/Building Finishes  
Building  
Prairie Construction Co.  
Kuehner, Chris (402)595-2534  
\$609,826.00

West Dodge Rd. (WB) Expressway  
Bridge 108th - 120th  
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Br, Spec,  
Elec, Sign  
Hawkins Construction Co.  
Zelensky, Rich (402)595-2534  
\$62,989,885.92

WB Bridges over 108th St., Omaha  
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed,  
Br, Gdrl, Elec, Sign  
Hawkins Construction Co.  
Zelensky, Rich (402)595-2534  
\$8,432,214.45

Springfield North  
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed, Br, Elec  
Cedar Valley Corp. & Subsidiaries  
Rankin, Robert (402)595-2534  
\$10,491,763.71

## District 3

Schuyler Northeast  
Gr, Br, Gdrl  
Herbst Construction, Inc.  
Lautenschlager, Chris (402)421-1717  
\$580,259.83

Schuyler Northwest  
Gr, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl  
A. M. Cohron & Son, Inc.  
Lautenschlager, Chris (402)421-1717  
\$739,842.18

Oakland South  
Specialty  
Ten Point Construction Co., Inc.  
Francis, Jeff (402)375-7071  
\$119,207.00

Norfolk West  
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed, Br,  
Gdrl, Elec  
Werner Construction, Inc.  
Davis, Rob (402)370-3474  
\$20,299,017.48

Jackson East  
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed, Elec  
Werner Construction, Inc.  
Becker, Roger (402)254-6552  
\$4,590,436.36

Bloomfield Northwest  
Gr, Culv, Br, Gdrl  
Christensen Bros., Inc.  
Becker, Roger (402)254-6552  
\$452,073.41

Dakota Ave. Interchange  
Br  
Christensen Bros., Inc.  
Becker, Roger (402)254-6552  
\$88,289.40

Stanton Southwest  
Gr, Br, Gdrl  
A. M. Cohron & Son, Inc.  
Anderson, David (402)564-5751  
\$279,752.71

Stanton Southwest  
Culv  
TCW Construction, Inc.  
Anderson, David (402)564-5751  
\$110,177.46

Albion Equipment Storage Facility  
Albion Equipment Storage Facility  
J. H. Hespe Company, Inc.  
Trospen, Steven (402)564-5751  
\$286,643.00

In Wayne  
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Br, Gdrl, Elec  
A & R Construction Co.  
Brummond, Scott (402)375-7071  
\$2,426,281.58

Wayne North  
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed, Fence, Elec  
A & R Construction Co.  
Brummond, Scott (402)375-7071  
\$1,658,440.65

Wynot Southeast  
Gr, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl  
Elk Horn Construction Co.  
Wiebelhaus, Bob (402)254-6552  
\$670,846.65

Wynot Southwest  
Gr, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl  
Herbst Construction, Inc.  
Wiebelhaus, Bob (402)254-6552  
\$394,048.10

Fordyce West  
Gr, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl  
Elk Horn Construction Co.  
Wiebelhaus, Bob (402)254-6552  
\$382,725.92

Wausa North  
Bit  
Dobson Bros. Const. Co.  
& Affiliates  
Wiebelhaus, Bob (402)254-6552  
\$1,726,449.07

Pierce Northeast  
Gr, Br, Gdrl  
Commercial Construction, Inc.  
Schulz, Ron (402)370-3474  
\$251,251.51

N-121 to US-81  
Gr, Culv, Seed, Gdrl, Elec Bit  
Werner Construction, Inc.  
Lollman, Doug (402)370-3474  
\$2,081,952.79

## District 4

In Hebron  
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Gdrl  
Castle Construction, Inc.  
Mead, Terry (402)371-6416  
\$868,251.82

Amherst South  
Br  
Simon Contractors & Subsidiaries  
Harter, Lance (402)234-6456  
\$310,228.78

Fullerton Northwest  
Br  
The Diamond Engineering Co.  
Lilley, Brendan (308)632-2123  
\$453,192.04

Roseland Southwest  
Gr, Culv, Br, Gdrl, Bit  
L. J. Webb Contractor, Inc.  
Lautenschlager, Chris (402)421-1717  
\$940,685.87

Clarks South  
Gr, Culv, Seed, Bit  
Werner Construction, Inc.  
Kleffner, Michael (308)385-6888  
\$874,540.55

Gibbon Interchange  
Elec  
Ensley Electrical Services, Inc.  
Kleffner, Michael (308)385-6888  
\$98,174.35

Hazard East  
Culv  
The Diamond Engineering Co.  
Kleffner, Michael (308)385-6888  
\$73,413.17

Hastings - Doniphan (NB)  
Bit  
Werner Construction, Inc.  
Ruxton, Bob (402)462-1996  
\$1,557,363.08

Miller to Custer Co. Line  
Gr, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Bit  
Paulsen, Inc.  
Farber, Tom (308)865-5434  
\$2,669,487.27

Elm Creek South  
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed, Br,  
Gdrl, Fence Elec Sign  
Paulsen, Inc.  
Farber, Tom (308)865-5434  
\$7,497,827.44

Districtwide  
Br, Gdrl  
Cement Products, Inc.  
Kwiatkowski, Rick (308)754-5411  
\$596,159.80

Silver Creek South Bridge  
Br  
Herbst Construction, Inc.  
Kwiatkowski, Rick (308)754-5411  
\$485,603.50

Stromsburg Southwest  
Br  
Wilke Contracting Corp.  
Grooms, Jerry (402)362-5934  
\$233,057.31

Stromsburg South  
Bit  
Werner Construction, Inc.  
Grooms, Jerry (402)362-5934  
\$2,192,382.23

York North & South Noise Wall  
Culv  
Garcia-Chicoine Enterprises, Inc.  
Anderson, Tom (402)362-5934  
\$546,504.20

York North & South  
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed,  
Br, Gdrl, Elec  
Dobson Bros. Const. Co.  
& Affiliates  
Anderson, Tom (402)362-5934  
\$18,182,230.53

Kearney Viaduct  
Br  
Wilke Contracting Corp.  
Nordhues, Bob (308)385-6265  
\$864,404.65

Odessa - Kearney Westbound  
Specialty  
Werner Construction, Inc.  
Nordhues, Bob (308)385-6265  
\$59,862.00

I-80 to US-30  
Specialty  
Monarch Oil, Inc.  
Nordhues, Bob (308)385-6265  
\$104,094.93

Hebron Vehicle Storage Addition  
Hebron Vehicle Storage Addition  
Caspers Construction Co.  
Sander, Gary (308)385-6265  
\$628,606.00

Doniphan North  
Gr, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Elec, Bit  
Werner Construction, Inc.  
Weber, Kirk (308)385-6888  
\$2,456,679.21

Ravenna Viaduct  
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Br, Gdrl, Elec  
Christensen Bros., Inc.  
Weber, Kirk (308)385-6888  
\$4,212,903.12

In Grand Island & South  
Specialty  
Monarch Oil, Inc.  
Weber, Kirk (308)385-6888  
\$183,481.25

N-70 to N-11  
Gr, Br, Gdrl, Bit  
Werner Construction, Inc.  
Woodgate, Gerald (308)385-6888  
\$2,116,617.28

In Central City  
Bit  
Dobson Bros. Const. Co.  
& Affiliates  
Gripenstroph, Scott (308)385-6888  
\$657,893.68

Central City East  
Bit  
Dobson Bros. Const. Co.  
& Affiliates  
Gripenstroph, Scott (308)385-6888  
\$1,720,793.63

Locust St. Interchg., Grand Island  
Landscaping  
Gross Seed Company, Inc.  
Schmidt, Larry (308)385-6888  
\$137,227.40



Grand Island South (So. Locust St.)  
Landscaping  
Gross Seed Company, Inc.  
Schmidt, Larry (308)385-6888  
\$75,151.50

Guide Rock North  
Gr, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Bit  
Werner Construction, Inc.  
Meyer, Steve (402)462-1996  
\$3,698,927.08

Oak South  
Gr, Culv  
Van Kirk Sand & Gravel, Inc.  
Meyer, Steve (402)462-1996  
\$145,191.75

## District 5

Angora South  
Bit  
Werner Construction, Inc.  
Frickey, Russ (308)262-1929  
\$1,886,608.10

Sunol Interchange  
Br  
Simon Contractors & Subsidiaries  
Frickey, Russ (308)262-1929  
\$269,810.57

West Sidney Interchange  
Elec  
Watts Electric Company  
Frickey, Russ (308)262-1929  
\$104,149.60

Oshkosh Interchange  
Elec  
Watts Electric Company  
Frickey, Russ (308)262-1929  
\$95,442.90

Scottsbluff West  
Gr, Culv, Seed, Gdrl, Bit  
Werner Construction, Inc.  
Applegate, Joe (308)632-1429  
\$4,984,306.78

Lyman West & South  
Bit  
Werner Construction, Inc.  
Applegate, Joe (308)632-1429  
\$404,164.50

Marsland South  
Gr, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Bit  
Perrett Construction, Ltd.  
Carnahan, Brian (308)432-6144  
\$4,448,654.86

Harrison Maintenance Facility  
Harrison Maintenance Facility  
Simon Contractors & Subsidiaries  
Carnahan, Brian (308)432-6144  
\$445,000.00

Harrison Salt Storage Facility  
Harrison Salt Storage Facility  
Paul Reed Const. & Supply, Inc.  
Carnahan, Brian (308)432-6144  
\$57,880.00

Gering Maintenance Facility  
Maintenance Facility  
Heggem Construction, Inc.  
Rhamy, Wayne (308)632-1429  
\$4,294,341.46

In Harrisburg  
Bit  
Werner Construction, Inc.  
Johnson, James (308)262-1929  
\$272,920.75

Pine Bluffs, Bushnell & N-19 Bridges  
ConPav, Br, Gdrl  
Reiman Corp.  
Johnson, James (308)262-1929  
\$1,128,837.65

## District 6

Overton Southeast  
Gr, Br, Gdrl  
Simon Contractors & Subsidiaries  
Raddatz, Bruce (308)995-6677  
\$240,938.72

Cozad East  
Bit  
Paulsen, Inc.  
Raddatz, Bruce (308)995-6677  
\$1,377,551.02

Paxton Northwest  
Bit  
Western Engineering Co., Inc.  
Harter, Lance (402)234-6456  
\$897,911.07

In Westerville  
Br  
Wilke Contracting Corp.  
Lautenschlager, Chris (402)421-1717  
\$368,338.70

Callaway Southeast  
Gr, Br, Gdrl  
The Diamond Engineering Co.  
Lautenschlager, Chris (402)421-1717  
\$803,770.77

Mullen South  
Bit  
Paulsen, Inc.  
Pettigrew, Don (402)376-3421  
\$2,045,603.44

Lexington Southwest  
Gr, Gdrl, Bit  
Paulsen, Inc.  
Krajewski, Toney (308)995-6677  
\$1,231,108.56

N-61/UPRR Lake McConaughy  
Gr, MSE Wall, ConPav, Culv,  
Br, Gdrl, Elec  
Paulsen, Inc.  
Morrell, Richard (308)535-8033  
\$5,684,098.81

Gothenburg  
Salt Dome & Conveyor System  
Dome Corp. of North America  
Morrell, Richard (308)535-8033  
\$647,965.00

Overton Link  
Gr, MSE Wall, Culv, Seed,  
Br, Gdrl, Elec, Bit  
Paulsen, Inc.  
Thomsen, Toby (308)535-8033  
\$6,365,563.52

Stapleton Maintenance Facility  
Stapleton Maintenance Facility  
Simon Contractors & Subsidiaries  
Thomsen, Toby (308)535-8033  
\$1,085,000.00

Dickens East  
Gr, Culv, Bit  
Western Engineering Co., Inc.  
Sawyer, Harlan (308)535-8033  
\$4,333,835.25

Brady South  
Gr, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Elec, Bit  
Capital Contractors, Inc.  
Brinker, Gary (308)535-8033  
\$9,965,526.75

Oconto South  
Bit  
Werner Construction, Inc.  
White, Dennis (308)872-6735  
\$2,328,661.54

Broken Bow South  
Gr, Culv, Bit  
Werner Construction, Inc.  
White, Dennis (308)872-6735  
\$12,720,608.55

## District 7

In Holbrook  
Bit  
Werner Construction, Inc.  
Krajewski, Toney (308)995-6677  
\$185,384.98

Edison South  
Bit  
Werner Construction, Inc.  
Krajewski, Toney (308)995-6677  
\$263,894.74

US-6 to Oxford  
Gr, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Bit  
Werner Construction, Inc.  
Kuhn, Kenton (308)995-5397  
\$2,894,323.43

Cambridge - Holbrook  
Gr, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Bit  
Werner Construction, Inc.  
Collins, Duane (308)345-8490  
\$5,195,002.27

Maywood  
Maywood Emergency Fire Repair  
McCook Contracting, Llc  
Ziebell, Roger (308)345-8490  
\$155,995.00

Imperial Equipment Storage Bldg.  
Imperial Equipment Storage Bldg.  
BD Construction, Inc./Kearney  
Ziebell, Roger (308)345-8490  
\$211,890.00

Grant Maintenance Facility  
Grant Maintenance Facility  
Simon Contractors & Subsidiaries  
Ziebell, Roger (308)345-8490  
\$303,100.00

In Holdrege  
Bit  
Werner Construction, Inc.  
Sell, Tim (308)995-5397  
\$774,288.77

District 7 - Districtwide  
Specialty  
Vogel Traffic Services, Inc.  
Dietz, Mark (308)995-5397  
\$706,206.22

Holbrook to N-46  
Gr, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Bit  
Werner Construction, Inc.  
Doyle, Kelly (308)345-8490  
\$7,343,552.73

N-46 to Holdrege  
Bit  
Werner Construction, Inc.  
Doyle, Kelly (308)345-8490  
\$4,986,708.26

## District 8

North Loup Bridge, Burwell  
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Br, Gdrl, Elec  
A & R Construction Co.  
Colfack, Gene (402)336-2051  
\$3,047,658.52

Burwell South  
Gr, Culv, Seed, Elec, Bit  
Paulsen, Inc.  
Colfack, Gene (402)336-2051  
\$1,646,946.31

Newport - O'Neill  
Gr, Culv, Seed, Bit  
Werner Construction, Inc.  
Rau, Larry (402)387-2471  
\$10,490,764.49

Bassett East  
Bit  
Werner Construction, Inc.  
Rudnick, Michael (402)387-2471  
\$1,566,308.95

Taylor Maintenance Facility  
Taylor Maintenance Facility  
Paulsen, Inc.  
Rudnick, Michael (402)387-2471  
\$1,045,500.00

Chambers Jct. South  
Gr, Culv, Br, Gdrl, Bit  
Werner Construction, Inc.  
Ziska, Dan (402)336-2051  
\$5,490,549.91

# Recommended Reading

More good books as recommended by Director John Craig



*"The Last Posse"* by Gale E. Christianson, 2001, 290 pages.

In 1912, in the midwestern United States, a prison break from the Nebraska State Penitentiary in Lincoln was bigger news than the sinking of the Titanic. Within one week, three men lay dead in the Penitentiary including the Warden and Deputy Warden; 300 lawmen were on a manhunt, and three men lay dead in a wagon on the Gretna-Chalco Road (present day 180th Street just north of I-80) including one innocent man from Springfield. The subsequent year would see more killing, trials of prisoners and lawmen, public inquiries and the last hanging in the State of Nebraska. Subsequent years would see other related tragedies and new information. This was a seminal year for Nebraska on capital punishment, prison reform, conduct of law enforcement and American jurisprudence. A great read that connects present-day Nebraska to its past.

*"Toll Roads and Free Roads: A Report of the Bureau of Public Roads, United States Department of Agriculture, on the feasibility of a system of transcontinental toll roads and a master plan for free highway development"* 1939, 132 pages.

This is a great read for historical context, but also as we contemplate the future. The essential conclusion under their scenarios and estimates: Tolls would produce less than 40 percent of the funding for debt service, maintenance and operating costs for the entire system. Therefore, it was not found feasible. However, small segments were feasible.

The means contemplated for a free system of highways involved the "excess-taking" of land. After the highway is built and land values rise, the adjoining land is sold to fund highway construction and maintenance.

This report is filled with information and just as today; in the 1930's, highways were valued for national defense, economic growth and ease of mobility.

*"Interregional Highways: A Report of the National Interregional Highway Committee, outlining and recommending a national system of interregional highways"* 1944, 184 pages.

This is a great companion piece to the 1939 report. The 33,920-mile system recommended generally reflects the later interstate highway system.

There is also an additional 5,000-mile list of recommended or auxiliary routes. This is an interesting read with recommended improvements to planning, design, construction, right-of-way, limiting access,

funding, urban versus rural aspects, highway employment, economics, rail grade crossings and many other elements of highways. The report, and President Roosevelt in his endorsement of the report, also supports the "excess-taking" of land (as the 1939 report did) that any "unearned" profit should accrue to the government vice the private sector.

The proposed system of regional highways comprised only one percent of the total road mileage in the United States, yet it was anticipated to carry 20 percent of the total highway traffic. (That is roughly the same proportion the interstate system is today, although I have seen some data that indicates the interstate system is 3 percent of all lane miles and carries 24 percent of all vehicle miles traveled a year).

*"Lynchings, Legends and Lawlessness"* (The Story of Historical Sidney, Nebraska) by Loren Avey, no copyright date, but released in 2006, 621 pages.

A good read on a frontier town in Nebraska. Named for Union Pacific President Sidney Dillon. There are several references to Fort Sedgewick (mentioned in the movie "Dances with Wolves") and trails, roads and railroads with special reference to freight movement (what's changed?). Some of these trails include "Cheyenne to Deadwood Trail," "Sidney Trail," "Sidney to Red Cloud Trail," etc. There is even reference to the competition for "Black Hills Traffic" via Cheyenne, Wyoming and Sidney or North Platte, Nebraska and the jealousy that existed with Omaha, Nebraska in 1876 (again what's changed?). Reference is also made to the significant public disapproval to build a railroad from Sidney to the Black Hills since it would compete with freighters hauling by horse-drawn wagon. And, of course, Cheyenne, Kearney and North Platte expressed their envy. There were about 85,000 miles of identifiable "roads" in Nebraska during this period (1867-1888), and this book provides interesting perspective to see how far we have come and that many things have not changed.

Two other good reads are not germane to transportation of roads but they do provide some perspective on the society within which we live as well as the historical context for the planet on which we reside.

*"Our Endangered Values"* (America's moral crisis) by Jimmy Carter, 2005, 212 pages.

*"In the Blink of an Eye"* by Andrew Parker, 2003, 316 pages.

# NDOR Events Calendar

## — October —

**International Walk to School Month**  
www.iwalktoschool.org

- 2-6 Drive Safely Work Week**  
www.netsnational.org/dsw.asp
- 3 New Employee Orientation Program**  
Rm. 152, 5001 S. 14th (the "Hill")  
Contact Carrie Williams @ 479-4870
- 4 Annual Employee Recognition Ceremony**  
I-80 Holiday Inn, Grand Island
- 5 State Gov't. Nebraska Mgmt. Exposition**  
12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m., State Capitol  
Contact Kay Benson @ 479-4340 www.nma.ne.gov
- 5 Annual Surface Transportation Program Meeting**  
District 2 7:00 p.m., Omaha  
UNO Alumni Center, 6705 Dodge Street
- 6 Bd. Examiners for Co. Hwy. & City Street Supts.**  
Meeting 8:45 a.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.  
Examination 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. NDOR Auditorium  
Contact LeMoyne Schulz @ 479-4436
- 9 State Holiday – Columbus Day**
- 10 Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day**  
www.brakesonfatalities.org
- 11 RoadToasters**  
11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.  
Contact Janice Kollars @ 479-4885
- 12 Annual Surface Transportation Program Meeting**  
District 7 7:00 p.m., Holdrege  
Super 8, 5th and Broadway
- 13 Bd. Public Roads Class. & Stds.**  
9:00 a.m., School District No. 15,  
Administrative Offices Board Room, 320 N. 5th St., Beatrice  
Contact LeMoyne Schulz @ 479-4436
- 15-21 National School Bus Safety Week**  
www.napt.org
- 17 Annual Surface Transportation Program Meeting**  
District 6 7:00 p.m., Ogallala  
Grey Goose Lodge, 201 Chuckwagon Road
- 18 RoadToasters – Speech Day**  
11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.  
Contact Janice Kollars @ 479-4885
- 18 Annual Surface Transportation Program Meeting**  
District 5 7:00 p.m., Chadron  
Best Western West Hills, 1100 W. 10th Street
- 19 Annual Surface Transportation Program Meeting**  
District 8 7:00 p.m., O'Neill  
Super 8, 106 East Highway 20
- 23-27 Nebraska Winter Weather Awareness Week**
- 25 RoadToasters**  
11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.  
Contact Janice Kollars @ 479-4885
- 27 Hwy. Commission Meeting**  
10:00 a.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.  
Contact Shirley Schafer @ 479-4530
- 30-31 Open Enrollment**  
Contact Human Resources @ 479-4574

## — November —

- 1-20 Open Enrollment**  
Contact Human Resources @ 479-4574
- 2 Letting**  
1:30 p.m., NDOR Auditorium  
Contact Liz Wunderlich @ 479-4528

- 2 Project Scheduling Meeting**  
8:30-11:30 a.m., NDOR Auditorium  
Contact Craig Anderson @ 479-4666
- 3 Bd. Examiners for Co. Hwy. & City Street Supts.**  
10:00 a.m., NDOR Materials & Research Conference Room  
Contact LeMoyne Schulz @ 479-4436
- 6 Annual Surface Transportation Program Meeting**  
District 4 7:00 p.m., Kearney  
Archway Monument, 3060 East 1st Street
- 8 RoadToasters**  
11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.  
Contact Janice Kollars @ 479-4885
- 10 State Holiday – Veterans' Day**
- 14 New Employee Orientation Program**  
Rm. 152, 5001 S. 14th (the "Hill")  
Contact Carrie Williams @ 479-4870
- 14 Annual Surface Transportation Program Meeting**  
District 3 7:00 p.m., Columbus  
New World Inn, 265 33rd Avenue
- 15 Annual Surface Transportation Program Meeting**  
District 1 7:00 p.m., Crete  
City Hall, 243 East 13th Street
- 15 RoadToasters – Speech Day**  
11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.  
Contact Janice Kollars @ 479-4885
- 17 Hwy. Commission Meeting**  
10:00 a.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.  
Contact Shirley Schafer @ 479-4530
- 17 Bd. Public Roads Class & Stds.**  
9:00 a.m., NDOR Auditorium  
Contact LeMoyne Schulz @ 479-4436
- 23-24 State Holiday – Thanksgiving**
- 29 RoadToasters**  
11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.  
Contact Janice Kollars @ 479-4885

## — December —

**National Drunk & Drugged Driving Prevention Month**

- 6 RoadToasters**  
11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.  
Contact Janice Kollars @ 479-4885
- 12 New Employee Orientation Program**  
Rm. 152, 5001 S. 14th (the "Hill")  
Contact Carrie Williams @ 479-4870
- 13 RoadToasters – Speech Day**  
11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.  
Contact Janice Kollars @ 479-4885
- 14 Letting**  
1:30 p.m., NDOR Auditorium  
Contact Liz Wunderlich @ 479-4528
- 15 Hwy. Commission Meeting**  
10:00 a.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.  
Contact Shirley Schafer @ 479-4530
- 21 Project Scheduling Meeting**  
8:30-11:30 a.m., NDOR Auditorium  
Contact Craig Anderson @ 479-4666
- 25 State Holiday – Christmas**

If you would like a key event included on upcoming calendars, call the Communication Office 479-4512 or e-mail lwilson@dor.state.ne.us. Information for the December 2006/January 2007 Roadrunner should be received by November 15.



# Surface Transportation Program Plans Announced

Nebraska's 2007 Surface Transportation Program reflects how the Roads Department allocates the taxpayer's highway user dollars to provide the best statewide highway system possible for all Nebraskans and the traveling public.

The 2007 program is published at \$609 million. The state highway program totals \$350 million and is funded from state and federal highway user fees. The local system program for city streets and county roads totals \$259 million and is funded by state, federal and local highway user revenues.

A total of 124 new projects will be let to contract on the state highway system during fiscal year 2007 (July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007). Projects throughout the state will range in size from small projects for lighting, intersection modifications, guardrail replacement, drainage, minor resurfacing, slope protection, armor coating, milling and crack sealing to large projects such as two and four-lane grading, structures, surfacing, resurfacing and six-lane interstate expansion projects.

Some of the larger projects include Interstate 80 from 3rd to 56th Street in Lincoln, Fremont East Bypass on US Highways 275 and 30, Neligh East on US Highway 275 and Elgin North on Nebraska Highway 14, Ord to Burwell on Nebraska Highway 11, Bridgeport to Oshkosh on US Highway 26, Viaduct over the UPRR on Nebraska Highway 61 at Lake McConaughy, Imperial West on US Highway 6, and Merriman South on Nebraska Highway 61.

The complete Surface Transportation Program Book is available on the NDOR web site:  
<http://www.nebraskatransportation.org/hwy-pgm/>

## We Get Letters ...

August 28, 2006

Dear Monty Fredrickson,

*I wanted to express the appreciation of the City of Lincoln for the wonderful job that the Nebraska Department of Roads did on the recent Highway 2 Improvement Project. Not only did the Department closely work with City of Lincoln staff to minimize the impacts on the motoring public, but by combining the City's safety project with the Department's maintenance project, both projects were completed in a more coordinated and effective manner.*

*We have already received numerous positive comments on the results of the Highway 2 work. People marvel at the smooth ride and that the intersection is more safely and efficiently operating than it did before the projects.*

*I hope that Nebraska Department of Roads and the City of Lincoln can continue to cooperate on projects in the future to create such mutually successful results.*

Sincerely,

Coleen J. Seng  
Mayor of Lincoln

***The Department of Roads receives numerous complimentary letters. The letters printed here are representative of those often sent praising the many fine and deserving employees of the Department of Roads.***

## Service Awards

**Congratulations** to these dedicated individuals for their work and continued service with the Department of Roads. They celebrate their service dates in *October and November*.

### 50 Years

Loren Henning, Materials & Research

### 40 Years

Carl Davis, Construction  
Kathleen Largent, Bus. Tech. Support

### 30 Years

Jeffery Bauer, District 5  
Roger Dobesh, District 1  
David Hall, Materials & Research  
Duane Lantz, Roadway Design  
Carl Peterson, District 4  
Michael Strohmeyer, District 6

### 20 Years

Barbara Baumfalk, Materials & Research  
John Gorecki, District 4  
Donnie Laughlin, District 1  
Teresa Vanover, District 1  
Kurt Vosburg, District 7

### 10 Years

Raymond Alexander, District 2  
Norman Anderson, District 3  
Steve Biltoft, Operations  
John Cooper, District 5  
Galen Hines, District 4  
Steven Kelle, District 1  
David Koch, District 3  
Alan Paine, Roadway Design  
Robert Sandman, District 3  
Jim Truka, District 1